

PATENTS

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant:</b>	Hiroyuki Takahashi	<b>Examiner:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Serial No:</b>	To be assigned	<b>Art Unit:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Filed:</b>	Herewith	<b>Docket:</b>	16816
<b>For:</b>	SURGERY SYSTEM	<b>Dated:</b>	July 9, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,056,735, dated May 2, 2000, issued to Okada et al.;
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 9-38098, published February 10, 1997 together with an English language abstract;
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2001-178734, published July 3, 2001 together with an English language abstract; and

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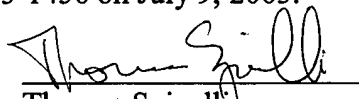
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Dated: July 9, 2003

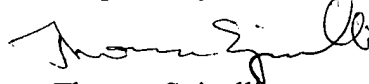
  
Thomas Spinelli

4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2001-346804, published December 18, 2001 together with an English language abstract.

Applicant is submitting copies of the above-cited references. The relevance of references 2-4 has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Docket Number (Optional) <b>16816</b>		Application Number <b>To be assigned</b>	
				Applicant(s) <b>Hiroyuki Takahashi</b>			
				Filing Date <b>Herewith</b>		Group Art Unit <b>Unassigned</b>	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,056,735	5/2/2000	Okada et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		9-38098	2/10/1997	Japan			✓	
		2001-178734	7/3/2001	Japan			✓	
		2001-346804	12/18/2001	Japan			✓	

OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.